

MINUTES

WASHINGTON STATE JAIL INDUSTRIES BOARD

June 10, 2005

**Criminal Justice Training Center
19010 1st Avenue South
Burien, Washington**

Members Present: Jim Berrios, Ed Crawford, James Huffman, Kenneth Kunes, Debra Latimer, Andre Loh, Helen McGovern, Runette Mitchell, Sean Morrow, Jill Will (staff), Marvin Wolff and Jamie Yoder (staff)

Proxies Presented: Joe Koval for Howard Yarbrough, Dan Plotner for Garry Lucas, and Terry Tilton for David Johnson

Members Absent: David Dillman, Randy Loomans, James Von Sauer, and Chandra Wrzesinski

A. Quorum Check

Chair Marvin Wolff confirmed that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. Members introduced themselves.

B. Welcome New Board Members

Jill Will introduced new board member James Huffman. Mr. Huffman introduced himself and gave the board a brief background. Mr. Von Sauer, another member recently appointed to the Board, was unable to attend today's meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

C. Approval of the Minutes: January 28, 2005 Meeting

Sean Morrow made the motion to approve the minutes as written, Andre Loh seconded. The motion carried.

D. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Will pointed out that most of the outstanding items on the Executive Director's Report have been completed.

Ms. Will requested that Joe Koval speak on Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 8206. The Department of Corrections/Correctional Industries (CI) lost their Class I program (private sector employment of offenders within correctional institutions) when it was found to be unconstitutional. SJR 8206, sponsored by Senator Hargrove, would amend the state constitution to essentially allow CI to restart the Class I program. Mr. Koval referred to the summary on SJR 8206 included in the Executive Directors report; "Senate Joint Resolution 8206, a proposed amendment to the state constitution allowing private sector employment of offenders in correctional facilities, passed the Senate by a vote of 48 to 0. The resolution then went to the House where it was passed by the Criminal

Justice and Corrections Committee. I (Jill Will) testified in support of the measure in committee. The resolution also passed the Appropriations Committee, and advanced to Second Reading in the Rules Committee. Unfortunately, the bill stalled in Rules and the resolution was never scheduled for Third Reading, consequently, never receiving a vote by the full House. It appears there was some opposition in the House, not simply a lack of time to complete the vote. Correctional industries will be working with legislative members during the interim to decide on next steps regarding the Class I industries program.”

Mr. Koval added that CI was also requested to put together a decision package for funding in an attempt to replace some of the lost Class I jobs. CI did receive some funding in the form of loans. CI plans to add 65 jobs for the Fiscal Year 2006 with a subsequent 43 more jobs for Fiscal Year 2007. CI is also preparing to update the five-year business plan in order to request supplemental funding to replace another 103 of the lost Class I jobs. There was some general discussion and clarification on SJR 8206 and the legislation surrounding it.

OTHER BUSINESS

Joe Koval requested time to speak on other matters of interest concerning replacing the lost Class I jobs.

SB 6489 sets mandatory purchasing requirements from higher education for Correctional Industries products. 1% of total goods and services for higher education needs to be purchased from Correctional Industries by June of 2006. In June of 2008 the requirement will be increased to 2%. Four sales positions have been dedicated specifically to higher education purchasing.

SB 5631 passed, which opens up CI's market. Previous legislation allowed sales only to governmental offices and non-profit organizations. With the passing of SB 5631 CI can now sell to offenders, offender families, and state employees in addition to governmental offices and non-profit organizations.

CI is expanding their food factory. Authority from COPS (state loan funding) was received for \$4.5 million. Money was received from the state treasurer and will have to be paid back over a 20 year period. The expansion will increase production and storage capacities and adds 80 more offender jobs. CI is currently looking into hiring two custody officers in the fall to enable a 24 hours/7 days a week factory work schedule. Other facility expansions are occurring within CI at Walla Walla, Coyote Ridge and Mission Creek Correction Center for Women. In the fall CI is looking into requesting funding so that they can take over the four institutional laundries they do not currently operate.

Correctional Industries is looking into relocating their panel operations from McNeil Island to The Monroe Corrections Center. The move would free up capacity at McNeil Island and should increase offender employment by 60 jobs at The Monroe Corrections Center. No jobs would be lost at McNeil Island.

SB 5631 made it possible to sell to offenders. With this in mind CI is studying offender stores to see if it would make sense to centralize the offender stores. The study will take at least a year and a half to two years to complete. CI is also looking into the centralization of pharmacies. Finally, CI is looking into producing injected foam chairs to reduce their purchasing costs and also for potential sales to other states.

OLD BUSINESS

E. Draft Operating Plan Review

Ms. Will presented the draft operating plan for review and asked for questions and comments. There was discussion on the potential one day seminar topic. The topic is to be determined based on a survey of the field on what would be most helpful. Perhaps staff from the Employment Security Department (ESD) and Department of Labor and Industries (LNI) can attend the workshop and provide information possibly in the form of handouts. ESD and LNI should participate in the planning of the workshop. Perhaps the workshop could be organized more along the lines of a resource fair.

Board members complimented the plan but some had questions on the scope, saying it might be too large for two people to carry out. Ms. Will clarified that the goals and the priorities were based on the survey and comments from Board members made at the last board meeting. Members questioned what the next steps are. Ms. Will stated that the next steps are for Ms. Will and Ms. Yoder to start carrying out the tasks outlined in the operating plan. Rather than use committee work, Board members will be tapped as a knowledge resource. Discussion followed on the possibility of breaking down the operating plan and focusing on just a few individual areas in order to build up the Board's credibility. It was also suggested that Board members give input on the work activities before they are carried out. Additional discussion took place on the workload of the operating plan. Ms. Will acknowledged that the operational plan for the next 18 months is a very aggressive agenda. It was suggested that Ms. Will review and modify accordingly the Operating Plan to reflect what she believes she can successfully complete in the next 18 months. Success and "quality over quantity" should be the key factors.

ACTION ITEM: Ms Will will attend the Washington Association of County Officials meeting in October.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Will will review the Operating Plan and modify accordingly to reflect what she believes she can successfully complete in an 18 month period.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Will will report back to the Board at the next meeting on steps taken to implement the Operating Plan.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Will will send out a reminder for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

F. FY 2006-2007 Budget

Ms. Will presented the draft FY 2006-2007 operating budget for discussion. The budget reflects changes in salary and benefits expense based on the budget passed by the Legislature and the projected increase in health care insurance costs. Non-personnel expenses have been changed to reflect the elements of the operating plan that were identified as needing additional funding. Kenneth Kunes asked how we pay for copies. Ms. Will clarified that we have access to the WASPC copy machine and pay a small administrative fee for that access. Runette Mitchell made the motion to approve the 2006-2007 budget, Jim Berrios seconded. The motion carried.

G. Offender Employment Services Grant Funds

Offender Employment Services and the Employment Security Department authorized the Jail Industries Board to manage a grant funding process for the benefit of jails that would link education to employment and work with community partnerships. Ms. Will shared that the only jurisdiction to respond to the RFP was Pierce County. Ms. Will and Ms. Latimer will review the proposal. Pierce County will more than likely receive the \$10,000 grant as long as all aspects of the response are complete.

ACTION ITEM: Jill Will and Debra Latimer will review the RFP received by Pierce County and award the grant if the response meets all RFP criteria.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

Marvin Wolff brought up that the enabling legislation for the Jail Industries Board does not address the alternative to incarceration programs with which we deal. The alternative programs seem to be outside of the legal mission as outlined by the Legislature. Mr. Wolff would like to know if the Board should pursue having the legislation changed. This is a serious question as it would open up the entire subject of jail industries. It appears to Mr. Wolff that we are operating in a gray area that needs to be defined. Ms. Tilton requested information regarding the original legislation or RCW, which is RCW 36.110. Ms. Will noted that amending the Board's authorizing legislation would require that we follow the gubernatorial process for executive request legislation. A complete legislative package including contacting all stakeholders would have to be submitted by mid-September for action in the next session. It was decided to leave the current situation as is for the time being.

I. Adjournment

There being no other business Chair Marvin Wolff called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Runette Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting, Debra Latimer seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.

Summary of Action Items

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